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Situation in the Congo

Taieb Sabhani, Hammarskjold's representative in Brussels, said that Belgium was blind to the fact that unless it modified its policy, pressures inside and outside the Congo eventually would deprive Brussels of all its influence in the country. He asserted that the Belgian arguments with him were hypocritical and completely unconvincing. In response to Sabhani's pressure for the removal of Belgians in Congolese service, the negotiators in Brussels allegedly alternated between a narrow legalistic position and references to the mood of public opinion in Belgium. Their early April announcement that Belgium was prepared to cooperate with the UN allegedly was the result of a threat by Sabhani to break off negotiations completely.

After talking with Lefevre and Spaak, who will probably head a new Belgian government within the next few days, Sabhani indicated he had enough hope to warrant staying on and continuing discussions with them. [redacted] (b)(3)

[redacted] (b)(1) (b)(3)

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